

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) An immaturable unialgal culture strain derived from spores of a marine macroalga of red algae having characteristics that no matured female gametophytes are detectable and only matured tetrasporophytes are detectable, said immaturable unialgal culture strain being obtained by the steps comprising: selectively collecting alga bodies, which have characteristics that no female gametophytes are detectable and only tetrasporophytes are detectable, from among matured bodies of a marine macroalga of red algae growing in a natural seawater area with intermixing of fresh water; washing the matured portions of the tetrasporophytes of the collected alga bodies with sterilized water or sterilized seawater; keeping the matured portions standing to cause release of spores; and culturing the released alga spores in sterilized seawater.

2. (Previously presented) The immaturable unialgal culture strain according to claim 1, wherein the marine macroalga of red algae is a red alga which belongs to the genus of *Gracilaria* sp.

3. (Previously presented) The immaturable unialgal culture strain according to claim 2, wherein the red alga which belongs to the genus of *Gracilaria* sp. is *Gracilaria verrucosa*, *Gracilaria chorda*, or a subspecies of either *Gracilaria verrucosa* or *Gracilaria chorda*.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A method for producing an immaturable unialgal culture strain derived from spores of a marine macroalga of red algae having characteristics that no matured female gametophytes are detectable and only matured tetrasporophytes are detectable, characterized by comprising the steps of collecting ~~matured sporophytes of a marine macroalga of red algae growing in a natural seawater area with intermixing of fresh water and having characteristics that no female~~

~~gametophytes are detectable as matured bodies in nature and only tetrasporophytes are detectable as matured bodies, standing the sporophytes as cut open to cause release of the spores and culturing the released spores to continue growing and culturing after sprouting of upright bodies from germinated spores~~selectively collecting alga bodies, which have characteristics that no female gametophytes are detectable and only tetrasporophytes are detectable, from among matured bodies of a marine macroalga of red algae growing in a natural seawater area with intermixing of fresh water; washing the matured portions of the tetrasporophytes of the collected alga bodies with sterilized water or sterilized seawater; keeping the matured portions standing to cause release of spores; and culturing the released alga spores in sterilized seawater.

6. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The method for producing an immaturable unialgal culture strain according to claim 5, wherein the marine macroalga of red algae is a red alga ~~belonging~~which belongs to the genus of *Gracilaria* sp.

7. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The method for producing an immaturable unialgal culture strain according to claim 6, wherein the red alga ~~belonging~~which belongs to the genus of *Gracilaria* sp. is *Gracilaria verrucosa*, *Gracilaria chorda*, or a subspecies of either *Gracilaria verrucosa* or *Gracilaria chorda*~~thereof~~.

8. (Withdrawn) The method for producing an immaturable unialgal culture strain according to claim 5, wherein the natural seawater area with intermixing of fresh water is a seawater area where the salt content does not exceed 1.0% by mass.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) An alga body obtained by growing the immaturable unialgal culture strain according to claim 1.

11. (Previously presented) The alga body according to claim 10, wherein the marine macroalga of red algae is a red alga which belongs to the genus of *Gracilaria* sp.

12. (Previously presented) The alga body according to claim 11, wherein the red alga which belongs to the genus of *Gracilaria* sp. is *Gracilaria verrucosa*, *Gracilaria chorda*, or a subspecies of either *Gracilaria verrucosa* or *Gracilaria chorda*.

13. (Canceled)